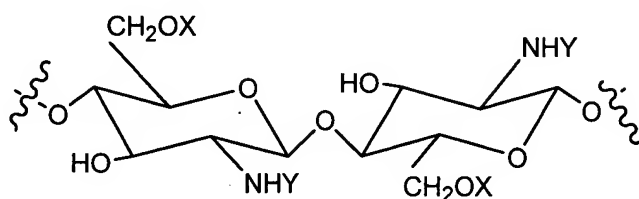


Listing of the claims:

CLAIMS

1-50 (Canceled)

51 (Previously Presented) An N-acylated chitinous polymer, wherein said chitinous polymer is comprised of subunits of the formula:



wherein

X is independently selected from hydrogen, $-(CH_2)_bCOG$, or $-(CH_2)_bCOOZ$ for each occurrence, provided that at least 10% of X groups on said polymer are $-(CH_2)_bCOOZ$ or $-(CH_2)_bCOG$;

Y is independently selected from $-C(=O)-R-CO_2Z$, $-C(=O)-R-COG$, hydrogen, carboxyalkyl, acetyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for each occurrence, provided that at least 1 % of Y groups on said polymer are $-C(=O)-R-CO_2Z$ or $-C(=O)-R-COG$;

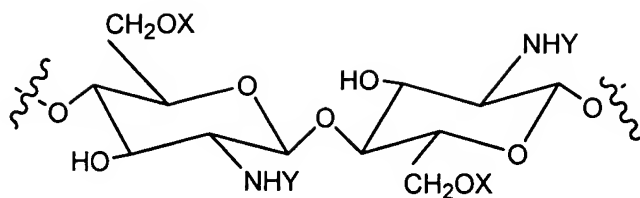
R is aryl;

b is 1-8;

G is an agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and

Z is hydrogen, a cation, an agent, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

52. (Currently Amended) An N-acylated chitinous polymer, wherein said chitinous polymer is comprised of subunits of the formula:



wherein

X is independently selected from hydrogen, $-(CH_2)_bCOG$, or $-(CH_2)_bCOOZ$ for each occurrence, provided that at least 10% of X groups on said polymer are $-(CH_2)_bCOOZ$ or $-(CH_2)_bCOG$;

Y is independently selected from $-C(=O)-R-CO_2Z$, $-C(=O)-R-COG$, hydrogen, carboxyalkyl, acetyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for each occurrence, provided that at least 1 % of Y groups on said polymer are $-C(=O)-R-CO_2Z$ or $-C(=O)-R-COG$;

R is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, and aryl; wherein R further comprises one or more heteroatoms replacing one or more carbons of the alkyl or alkenyl group;

b is 1-8;

G is an agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and

Z is hydrogen, a cation, an agent, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.